

Application No. 09/508,794
Amendment dated October 5, 2006
Reply to Office action dated June 8, 2006

Page 6 of 10

Remarks

Claims 140-151, 153-156, 158-164, 167-173, 175-178, 180-192, 195-211 were pending in the application. Claims 140-151, 153-156, 158-164, 167-173, 175-178, 180-192, 195-211 were rejected. Claims 140-151, 153-156, 158-164, 167-173, 175-178, 180-192, 195-211 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Claims 212-229 are added. Claim 212 is the independent claim.

Reconsideration of the amended application is respectfully requested.

The examiner rejected claims 198-207 under 35 USC §112 as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 198-207 are canceled, rendering this rejection moot.

The examiner rejected claims 140, 151, 162-165, 167, 168, 173, 184-186, 193, 195-197, and 198-211 under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Huffman et al., in view of Yusefu; claims 142-145, 158-161, 180-183, 187-191, and 201-204 were rejected, further in view of Lebby et al.; claims 141 and 146, further in view of Shibasaki et al.; and claims 146 and 192, further in view of Dao et al. Claims 140-151, 153-156, 158-164, 167-173, 175-178, 180-192, 195-211 are canceled, rendering the rejections moot.

New claims 212-229 are added; claim 212 is the independent claim, from which all the other claims depend. Independent claim 212 recites a mobile display device, in particular for displaying text and image information. The mobile display device includes a casing, at least one manipulation region for operation by a user, and at least one actuatable operating element. The casing has a planar display unit with at least one planar display screen disposed on a first side of the casing. The manipulation region is

Application No. 09/508,794
Amendment dated October 5, 2006
Reply to Office action dated June 8, 2006

Page 7 of 10

provided at a border zone of the display unit in such a way that the user can perform operating actions with one or more fingers of one hand. The at least one actuatable operating element is arranged within the manipulation region on a second side of the casing that faces in a direction different than the first side. Actuation of the at least one operating element individually or in combination initiates at least one of leafing-through and scrolling functions to navigate document content displayed on the display screen or to provide functions for selection menus.

In contrast, Huffman et al. is directed to an electronic book having a book-shaped housing that has the look and feel of a real, paper book (column 4, lines 34 and 35). The book-shaped housing has a first housing member pivotally connected to a second housing member (column 4, lines 36 and 37). A first touchscreen 130 and a second touchscreen 132 can be integrated into the book-shaped housing (column 5, lines 9-17). The touchscreen acts as an input device to receive user-initiated events (column 7, lines 17-20). Huffman et al. disclose hotspot portions of the touchscreen for requesting that a subsequent page of text be displayed on the touchscreen (column 8, lines 51-57). Huffman et al. disclose no such hotspot portions or other controls on a surface other than the touchscreen. Huffman et al. include only a card slot, a power-receiving port, and a data-receiving port on the outside of the housing.

Thus, Huffman et al. do not disclose at least one planar display screen disposed on a first side of the casing and at least one actuatable operating element that is arranged within the manipulation region on a second side of the casing that faces in a direction different than the first side, wherein actuation of the at least one operating element

Application No. 09/508,794
Amendment dated October 5, 2006
Reply to Office action dated June 8, 2006

Page 8 of 10

individually or in combination initiates at least one of leafing-through and scrolling functions to navigate document content displayed on the display screen or to provide functions for selection menus, as recited in claim 212. In particular, the operating elements disclosed in Huffman et al. are always located on the face of the touchscreen within the housing. Huffman et al. emphasize throughout the reference that the electronic book is intended to look like a real printed book (see, for example, column 4, lines 34, 35, and 45-65). For this reason, the input devices for this electronic book are always arranged inside the book (see, for example, Figs. 8-24 and the corresponding description). To include input devices on a surface of the device other than the display screen or other internal surface would frustrate the intended purpose of the Huffman et al. invention. Therefore, it would be improper to combine the teachings of Huffman et al. with those of any other reference in order to modify the Huffman et al. apparatus such that it includes input means on the outside of the casing, because Huffman et al. teach away from such placement.

Likewise, Yusefu discloses portable terminal equipment that includes touch-sensitive inputs on the display, and alphanumeric keyboard inputs on the back of the display. Thus, in contrast to the invention recited in claim 212, Yusefu does not disclose a manipulation region provided at a border zone of the display unit in such a way that the user can perform operating actions with one or more fingers of one hand, and at least one actuatable operating element that is arranged within the manipulation region wherein actuation of the at least one operating element individually or in combination initiates at least one of leafing-through and scrolling functions to navigate document content

Application No. 09/508,794
Amendment dated October 5, 2006
Reply to Office action dated June 8, 2006

Page 9 of 10

displayed on the display screen or to provide functions for selection menu. Yusefu only discloses a touch-sensitive display part for performing input operations. Other controls keys 4, 5 are disposed on the same surface as the display part. The keys disposed on the back side of the device are only alphanumeric keys for data entry, and do not provide any control functions. In any case, an operating element for initiating leafing-through or scrolling functions for navigating in a displayed document or providing functions for selection menus is not disclosed at all.

Therefore, Yusefu does not overcome the deficiencies noted above with respect to the disclosure provided by Hoffman et al. That is, neither reference discloses a manipulation region provided at a border zone of the display unit in such a way that the user can perform operating actions with one or more fingers of one hand, and at least one actuatable operating element that is arranged within the manipulation region wherein actuation of the at least one operating element individually or in combination initiates at least one of leafing-through and scrolling functions to navigate document content displayed on the display screen or to provide functions for selection menu, as recited in claim 212. Therefore, even if combination of the teachings of these two references would be proper, the resulting apparatus still would not include all of the elements recited in claim 212.

The examiner cited Lebby et al. as disclosing a digital display device hinge having an electronic compartment with a connector/adaptor coupled to an external device, and an interface unit for supplying energy. These features are irrelevant to claim 212 as amended and to the deficiencies of Huffman et al. and Yusefu.

Application No. 09/508,794
Amendment dated October 5, 2006
Reply to Office action dated June 8, 2006

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER Page 10 of 10
OCT 05 2006


The examiner cited Shibasaki et al. as disclosing a digital book having an LED to show the states of the battery. This feature is irrelevant to claim 212 as amended and to the deficiencies of Huffman et al. and Yusefu.

The examiner cited Dao et al. as disclosing that it is well-known to detach one of the digital displays. This feature is irrelevant to claim 212 as amended and to the deficiencies of Huffman et al. and Yusefu.

Based on the foregoing, it is submitted that the rejections are not applicable to the newly-added claims. It is therefore requested that the Amendment be entered, the claims allowed, and the case passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

October 5, 2006
Date



Thomas M. Champagne
Registration No. 36,478
Customer No. 49691
828.253.8600